

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

This is the U.S. National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US2003/034668, filed October 31, 2003 (published in English under PCT Article 21(2)), which in turn ~~This application~~ claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/423,119, filed November 1, 2002, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/685,125 filed October 13, 2003, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/326,549 filed December 19, 2002, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/785,695 filed February 16, 2001, and which claims priority from PCT Application No. PCT/US02/04468 filed February 15, 2002, each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:
It has previously been noted that GLCN is not stable at high temperatures, see U.S. Patent ~~6,423,929~~ 6,432,929. Therefore, in an attempt to avoid degradation of the cartilage health supplements U.S. Patent ~~6,423,929~~ 6,432,929 teaches that beverages that include GLCN are prepared using a process that requires two separate heating steps, to minimize chemical alteration of GLCN. The juice drink base is prepared using pasteurization at about 195°F for 42 seconds. A separate GLCN water-based solution is prepared at a temperature of below 160°F. These two solutions are mixed to form the GLCN-supplemented beverage. U.S. Patent ~~6,423,929~~ 6,432,929 also teaches incorporating cartilage health supplements into snack bars that are not heat-treated.

Please insert the Abstract, submitted herewith on a separate page, as page 27 at the end of the application.